

Gila County



FALL 2016

NEWSLETTER

Board Appoints New County School Superintendent



Gila County School
Superintendent Roy Sandoval

The Gila County Board of Supervisors appointed new School Superintendent Roy Sandoval at a special meeting Sept. 2 in Globe. Sandoval thanked the voters for the opportunity to serve and said that he looked forward to being a positive force in the lives of Gila County students.

Sandoval won the Aug. 30 Republican primary race against opponent Gail Gorry, in which there was no Democratic challenger. He will fill the remainder of former Superintendent Dr. Linda O'Dell's term, effective immediately. O'Dell resigned June 30, 2016, to serve as the Superintendent/Principal of Pine-Strawberry Elementary School District. The board commended the superintendent's office staff for keeping day-to-day operations running smoothly after O'Dell's early departure.

Among those he thanked, Sandoval made special mention of his high school coach Dennis Pirch who, in Sandoval's words, "somehow encouraged this rascal who was very good at football, but not very good at academics to pursue a career in education." Sandoval, a first-generation college graduate who grew up in Gisela, told the board he was hopeful he could serve as an example to Gila County students to help change the trajectory of their lives. Sandoval is a lifelong educator who has served as principal of Payson High School (his alma mater), principal of Payson Elementary, turnaround principal at the struggling Alchesay High School, and most recently as a consultant with Southwest School Turnarounds.

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The New Copper Building

The new Copper Building will help consolidate Gila County offices and reduce the county's need to rely on costly leased office space.

Beginning on Oct. 17, Gila County Probation will be located in the new space behind the Gila County Courthouse in Globe. On Oct. 24, Human Resources, Library District, Finance, and the Mail Room will be in the new location as well. These moves support the Board of Supervisors' priority of eliminating county offices located in rental properties.

Holiday Closures:

**Nov. 11: Veterans
Day**

**Nov. 24 & Nov. 25:
Thanksgiving Day**

Dec. 26th: Christmas

Sheriff's Office Offers Free Fingerprinting for Children

Fingerprinting for children is a free service provided by the Gila County Sheriff's Office at both the Payson and Globe Jails. Fingerprinting will be conducted by a trained professional using a self-contained fingerprint kit that families can keep at no cost.

Gila County Jail Commander Major Justin Solberg encourages all families to have their children fingerprinted. He points out that having an identification record created can really give parents peace of mind in the event that their children ever become lost or missing. Contact the Payson jail at 928-468-2835 to set up an appointment Mon-Fri 8am-5pm. Call the Globe jail at 928-402-1874 to make an appointment on Tues-Fri from 8am-8pm. Accommodations can be made for fingerprinting on weekends if appointments are made in advance.

FINGERPRINT AMERICA®
CHILD IDENTIFICATION
FINGERPRINTING KIT

SHERIFF
GILA COUNTY

Compliments of
SHERIFF J. ADAM SHEPHERD
GILA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

CHILD'S FULL NAME _____

SIGNATURE OF PERSON TAKING FINGERPRINTS _____

THIS KIT WAS COMPLETED ON ____ / ____ / ____

KEEP IN A SAFE, ACCESSIBLE PLACE
FOR YOUR RECORDS ONLY



Community Services Director Malissa Buzan (left) with Charlene Becker

Community Services Nominates Partner for Heart in Hand Award

"A lot of the time with teen pregnancy and young parents, we frown upon them and turn our heads," Charlene Becker, case manager and health educator for Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services (TOPS) in Globe-Miami, told the Gila County Board of Supervisors at a regular meeting Aug. 2. "I just hope that our community is able to embrace these young ladies," added Becker who the board recognized for receiving the Arizona Community Action Association's 2016 "Heart in Hand" Award.

Gila County Community Services Division Director Malissa Buzan nominated Becker

for the award. Buzan introduced Becker by pointing out that Becker works with families through dramatic, life-altering events. Buzan commended Becker for her dedication, telling the board that Becker constantly goes above and beyond her job description, always touching base with TOPS families and making sure they're supported. "I am in awe of her," said Buzan. Buzan explained that Becker has one of those jobs that many of the rest of us look at and wonder how they do it.

The board thanked Becker and congratulated her on the award. District One Supervisor Tommie Martin complimented Becker for her ability to "look at the person in a holistic way—every single segment of that young lady's life—and ask 'How can we fill in the gaps? How can we help her?'"

Contact us:

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General Information

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County Welcomes New Probation Chief Steven Lessard



Steven Lessard, Gila County's Chief of Probation

Steven Lessard describes his new position (effective August 8) as Chief of Probation in Gila County as his dream job. Chief Lessard retired from Maricopa County with 23 years of experience in probation, working his way up from line probation officer to division director. As

director he had oversight of all specialty programs including problem solving courts, literacy centers for probationers and members of the community, and a 25-bed facility for homeless probationers.

During his time at Maricopa County, he developed a passion for working with clients who were dealing with mental illness. He is a national speaker on serving probationers with mental illness and is on the faculty at the National Crime and Justice Institute. His work with the Crime and Justice Institute has afforded him the opportunity to collaborate with and train tribal nations on how to address mental illness in their court systems. According to Chief Lessard, "We drastically underestimate the number of probationers on our caseloads who suffer with serious mental illness."

Most recently, Chief Lessard spent two years working at the Arizona State Supreme Court, where he oversaw specialty courts and specialty programs statewide. He loved working at the court, but missed the interactions with probation officers and clients. His position in Gila County allows him more of these sorts of opportunities to connect with folks one-on-one. Chief Lessard grew up in a small town and his wife grew up in Globe, so the position at Gila County was also an opportunity for him to be closer to family.

Chief Lessard is proud to work for Gila County and has been impressed with the professionalism and dedication of his new staff, the courts under the leadership of Presiding Judge Honorable Timothy M. Wright, and Court Administrator Jon Bearup. Chief Lessard is passionate about evidence-based practices stating, "Today we know what works with offenders and we have a slew of tools to motivate offenders to change their behaviors, without always reverting to jail or prison sanctions." Chief Lessard adds, "I truly believe that we can protect the public by investing in communities where our offenders live... These offenders are connected to families, and the decisions we make impact offenders, families, victims, and the community."

Over 250 Backpacks Distributed at Rock the Block



The First Annual Rock the Block Event at City Hall Park in Globe.

Over 250 backpacks filled with school supplies were distributed to local families at the first ever "Rock the Block," back to school party on Aug. 11. The event, which was held at City Hall Park in Globe, was a collaboration between Gila County's Division of Health & Emergency Management, Copper Basin Safe Kids Coalition, Arizona Youth Partnership, and Gila County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition. District Two Supervisor Mike Pastor donated \$500.00 to help with expenses for the event.

About 350 attendees enjoyed a performance donated by the local band Mighty Bison. Eastern Arizona Area Health Education Center provided free food. Gila County CASA, Friends of the Globe Public Library, Air Evac, and other community groups were on hand to get the word out about the work they do. The City of Globe, United Rentals, and Jeff Rutherford also made donations in support of the event.

After a great turnout in its first year, organizers are hopeful that Rock the Block will continue annually.

Gila County by the Numbers

More than **2,195** books are mailed monthly to preschool children in Gila County by the Gila County Library District thanks to a grant from First Things First.

The Gila County Recorder's Office mailed **19,578 ballots** for the August primary.

About **450 residents** accessed employment services at Gila County Community Services in July and August 2016.

The Gila County Elections department counted **11,920 ballots** to determine the results of the August primary.

Gila County voter turnout for the August primary was **2nd in the state** at 42.13%, just behind Yavapai County, which had 42.26% voter turnout.

Community Development Division issued **7 single family residential house permits** in June, July, and August 2016.

Gila County Health Services administered **1,448 shots** in June, July, and August 2016.



Important Dates for the November 8, 2016 General Election:

Voter Registration Deadline:	Oct. 10, 2016
Early Voting Begins:	Oct. 12, 2016
Sample Ballot Mailed:	Oct. 28, 2016
Last Day to Request an Early Ballot:	Oct. 28, 2016
Last Day for Early Voting:	Nov. 4, 2016
General Election Day:	Nov. 8, 2016

For more information about early voting, absentee voting, or to register to vote, contact the Gila County Recorder's Office at 928-402-8731.

For more information about polling places, campaign finance, or election day, contact the Gila County Elections Department at 928-402-8709.

